

Preferably, a protein expression vector (described in the specification of a patent application entitled "Protein expression vector and its use" and filed by the same applicant on the same day) is used. This expression vector is constructed by using pCRII-TOPO vector described in the Examples hereinafter, or a commercially available expression vector, for example pSecTag2A vector or pSecTag2B vector (Invitrogen) and integrating a secretory signal nucleotide sequence suitable for expression of the protein of the present invention, in the 3' downstream side thereof, a Tag nucleotide sequence, a cleavable nucleotide sequence and a cloning site, into which a nucleotide sequence encoding a target protein can be inserted, in this order. More specifically, it is preferred to use trypsin signal as the secretory signal, a nucleotide sequence encoding polyhistidine as the Tag nucleotide sequence, and a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence which is susceptible to enzyme-specific cleavage, i.e., a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of Asp-Asp-Asp-Asp-Lys (SEQ ID NO:40) (said amino acid sequence is recognized by enterokinase, and the recombinant fusion protein is cleaved at the C-terminus part thereof) as the cleavable nucleotide sequence.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at the bottom of page 59, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Amplification was carried out by using the primers having the sequences represented by SEQ ID NOS: 11 and 12 so that the peptide of Leu-Val-His-Gly (SEQ ID NO:41) was present